



Here at Wiltshire Music Connect, the Music Education Hub for Wiltshire, we're updating the Take Note Youth Consultation we did 2 years ago. We've asked freelance Consultant, Nell Farrally, to gather even more views about music education from children and young people (CYP) across the county.

### Why more consultation?

We think it's important for the Hub, as an organisation which supports music making for children and young people, to regularly consult and involve CYP in our work. We think CYP have the right to have their voices heard about decisions which affect them, and it helps us to understand and learn what CYP want from their music education.

Although we involved almost 800 people in the first Take Note consultation in 2016, Wiltshire is a big county, and we want to ensure that more people can have their say. There have been big changes to musical learning in Wiltshire in the past few years and lots of new opportunities. We feel it's important to keep listening to feedback.

We also want to find out more about a particular issue which is important to the Hub – how we can do more to help children with their musical learning when they go from primary to secondary school (transition). So, we want to hear what CYP have to say about this – but also, we're going to be doing some research asking parents/carers, teachers and music tutors what they think about music and transition.

### What difference did the first Take Note consultation make?

The consultation in 2016 gave us lots of information about children and young people's needs and interests which we didn't know before. This was summarised in a report with 'Key Findings' which you can read [here](#). The report had lots of recommendations of things we could do to make a difference and we're pleased to say that we have done something to address all the Key Findings. One example of how we've responded concerns rock, pop and alternative music. The consultation found that opportunities to do music outside of school in rock, pop and alternative styles were patchy across the county. Some young people felt that their interest in rock and pop didn't get the same support and opportunities as classical music did. The Hub's response to this has been:

- We've expanded our Associate Providers (music tutors and organisations) to include a wider range of musical styles.
- We've introduced a Secondary School song-writing competition.
- We've commissioned a county 'choir' that will include a wide range of musical styles.
- We've widened our tuition subsidy scheme to include some outside of school tuition (e.g Sound Emporium and Riverbank Studios).



### How can people get involved?

Between March and May, Nell be out and about on our behalf visiting a selection of schools and groups. However, anyone can have their say by taking an online survey using a computer, tablet or smartphone by clicking on this link <http://bit.ly/TakeNote2018>. Anyone can complete the survey, but for children under 10, we suggest getting an adult to help. There's also an option for parents/carers to complete the survey using this link. The survey is anonymous – you don't have to give your name. BUT, there is a prize draw which you can choose to enter as a thank you for your time. If you want to enter the prize draw we will need to know how to contact you if you win. There will be opportunities for teachers and music educators to input into the research about musical transition through Music Cluster meetings.

### About Wiltshire Music Connect

Wiltshire Music Connect is the **Music Education Hub** for Wiltshire. **Music Education Hubs** are funded by the government through Arts Council England and are a key part of the [National Plan for Music Education](#).

We connect children and young people in our county with a broad range of music making opportunities and experiences to compliment and support what schools offer. Because music is excellent for developing young minds.

As well as **working with schools and music teachers** we work with a growing group of people involved in a much wider range of music activity, including **bands, clubs and groups, promoters, festivals and venues** – with both **professional and volunteer musicians**.



For information about the consultation,  
contact: **Nell Farrally**  
[nell.farrally@wiltshiremusicconnect.org.uk](mailto:nell.farrally@wiltshiremusicconnect.org.uk)

[www.wiltshiremusicconnect.org.uk](http://www.wiltshiremusicconnect.org.uk)

**NELL FARRALLY**  
Arts & Culture  
Evaluation – Research – Consultancy

wiltshire  
music  
connect